LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-32 (Cancelled).

33 (NEW). An apparatus for allowing a viewer to assign content codes to scenes of a completed audiovisual program from a standard program player generating a program signal comprising:

a content selector having a viewer input for generating a content code for a current scene, said content code being descriptive of the content in said scene and being useable by viewers to determine whether the scene should be played or not;

a scene indicator indicating whether said current scene has been assigned said content code, said scene indicator receiving an input when said content selector is activated, and in response changing state; and

a memory for storing content codes associated with respective scenes.

34 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 33 wherein said memory stores data relating to the beginnings and endings of scenes together with respective content codes.

35 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 33 wherein said scene indicator is activated when a new scene is started.

36 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 35 wherein said scene indicator is deactivated after said content code for the scene is selected by said code selector.

37 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 35 further including a scene detector that detects a scene automatically and activates said scene indicator.

38 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 35 further including a manually operated switch for activating said scene indicator at the beginning of each scene.

39 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 33 further including a timer to indicate the time left before the end of the scene.

40 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 33 further comprising a controller coupled to said content selector and controlling the state of said scene indicator in response to signals from said content selector.

41 (NEW). An apparatus for generating content codes for a program signal formed of a sequence of scenes, said program signal being received from a program player, comprising:

a scene detector receiving said program signal and being adapted to detect a starting point for each of said scenes in said program signal;

a scene indicator coupled to said scene detector and indicating that a current scene requires a content code, said content code being descriptive of the content of the current scene;

a selector activated by a user to select said content code for the current scene;

a controller receiving an input from said selector indicating that the content code for the current scene has been received from the user, and in response generating a control signal to said scene indicator to change the sate of said scene indicator; and

a memory that stores a table of said scenes and the corresponding content codes.

42 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 wherein said scene indictor is deactivated when a content code is assigned to the current scene.

43 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 wherein said program signal includes scene identification codes identifying the starting points of the scenes, wherein said scene detector is adapted to detect said scene identification codes.

44 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 further comprising a scene start selector adapted to be activated by the viewer to indicate the starting points of said scenes.

45 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 wherein said controller is adapted to determine if the viewer fails to provide said content code, said controller being adapted to generate in this case a default content code for said current scene.

46 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 further comprising a timer indicating the time left before the end of the current scene.

47 (NEW). The apparatus of claim 41 wherein said scene indicator is activated for a predetermined time.

48 (NEW). A method for generating content codes for the sequential scenes of a program from a program signal received from a program player comprising:

    receiving said program signal;

    identifying a current scene of said program from said program signal;

    obtaining a content code from said viewer regarding said scene; and

    storing said content code in a memory.

49 (NEW). The method of claim 48 further comprising storing in said memory data relating to the beginnings and endings of scenes together with said content codes.

50 (NEW). The method of claim 48 further comprising detecting a new scene and providing an indication that said new scene requires a content code.

51 (NEW). The method of claim 48 further comprising changing said indication for said new scene after said content code is obtained for said current scene.

52 (NEW). The method of claim 48 further comprising detecting each new scene sequentially and automatically activating said indication after each new scene is detected.

53 (NEW). The method of claim 52 wherein new scenes are detected automatically by a scene detector.

54 (NEW). The method of claim 52 wherein new scenes are determined by a viewer and indication is controlled by a manual switch operated by the viewer.

55 (NEW). The method of claim 52 further comprising deactivating said indication when a content code is assigned to the respective scene.

56 (NEW). The method of claim 52 further comprising deactivating said indication after a predetermined time.

57 (NEW). The method of claim 52 further comprising providing a timer indicating the time left to the end of the current scene.